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# NOTES

## Part One: THE MANAGERS

### THE VACUUM OF POWER

1. Mussolini was the first person to use the expression. "*Il nostro fascismo è totalitario*" occurs in one of his early speeches.
2. For a while, the "gold bloc" countries (led by France) maintained gold convertibility, but they found their exports were at a competitive disadvantage in world markets.
3. Referred to, as always in the case of papal encyclicals, by its first few words, *Non Abbiamo Bisogno*. The text was smuggled out of the Vatican and published first in France, from where it made its way back into Mussolini's Italy.
4. The Lodge merely went more underground for the time being.
5. The initial sums paid by the Financial Convention did not equal what had been promised to Pius IX by the Law of Guarantees proposed and passed by the Italian parliament but rejected by Pius IX.
6. Mussolini appointed a troublesome Fascist Party member, Cesare De Vecchi, as his first ambassador to the Vatican, thus removing him from public life.

### REENTRY INTO POWER

1. Founded in 1878 by Pope Leo XIII.
2. Founded in 1877 by Pope Leo XIII.
3. *Amministrazione per le opere di religione*.
4. *Istituto per le opere di religione*. Abbreviated IRA in this book.

## ECONOMIC MIRACLE

1. The Democristians had as one of their nicknames *i preti* ("the priests"). Choleric Cardinal Tisserant used to refer to them as the *democretini* (roughly translated as "popular cretins").
2. Chief among these are: Bastogi, Credito Fondiario, SGES, La Sind di Milano, Efibanca-L'Ente Finanziario Interbancario.
3. Net profit in 1967 was \$5.5 million.
4. Capital: \$72 million.
5. Annual profit: \$420 million.
6. Capital: \$280 million. By this time it had captured almost 70 percent of passenger shipping in Italy and operated over 90 ships (including those in the Adriatica, Lloyd-Triestino, and Tirrenia lines).
7. Twenty percent of all bank deposits in Italy are held by them and the Vatican-owned, Rome-based Banco di Santo Spirito. The capital of the latter was \$12.8 million with total deposits of \$729 million in 1967.
8. Capital: \$40 million.
9. Capital: \$64 million.
10. Capital: \$48 million.
11. Banca Provinciale Lombarda, Credito Romagnolo, Banco di San Geminiano e San Prospero, Banco San Paolo, Piccolo Credito Bergamasco, and Banco Ambrosiano.
12. Literally thousands of small banks exist in Italy and Sicily which were wholly owned by the Vatican agencies.
13. Assicurazioni Generali di Trieste e Venezia and Riunione Adriatica di Sicurtà.
14. The Vatican-owned Istituto Farmacologico Serono of Rome—with a capital of \$1.4 million, a 250-person payroll, and an annual profit exceeding \$150,000—produced and marketed for many years a popular contraceptive with the brand name Luteola. Nogara himself bought the IFS before World War II. Also Vatican-owned was the pasta company, Molini e Pastificio Pantanella S.p.A., with \$15 million in assets. In the fifties, both companies had nephews of Pope Pius XII as board directors.
15. In Spain, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Luxembourg, and India. The British textile group, Courtaulds, was a shareholder of SNIA-Viscosa.
16. Nogara's takeovers of old, ailing companies often took a long

time to mature into profitable ventures. Manifattura Ceramica Pozzi, one of Italy's oldest companies, wholly owned by the Vatican (now specializing in bathroom fixtures, plastics, and chemicals), started to turn a profit by the end of the sixties. It had a capital then of \$37 million but was barely profitable. With its foreign subsidiaries in Brazil and France and its expanding export trade, the Vatican eventually made a profit from it.

17. Capital: \$20 million. Assets valued at \$304 million.
18. Including Italcable.
19. Including RAI (Radio Televisione Italiana).
20. The 1983 reports on Montedison claim for it to be a pathfinder among European chemical companies. Montedison of the 1980s is concentrating on plastics and pharmaceutical products. Mario Schimberni, its present chairman, has started a financial restructuring of the Montedison group. The Vatican got out of Montedison some years ago.
21. Società Santa Barbara, Società Mineraria del Trasimeno, with combined capital of nearly \$10 million.
22. The combined capitalization of some of the companies engaged in the above amounted to nearly \$100 million.
23. Supplied steel furnishings for the *Raffaello* and the *Michelangelo*, two of the grandest passenger ships in the Italian Line that belonged to Finmare, a holding company of Finmeccanica, an IIR company in which the Vatican had controlling interest.
24. The Gran San Bernardo Tunnel was its work.
25. SGI acquired 70 percent of common stock in Watergate Improvements, Inc., Washington, D.C.
26. Immobiliare Canada built the Montreal Stock Exchange Tower.
27. In a fiduciary contract, an Italian bank would sign a secret agreement with a Swiss bank. The Italian bank would then transfer a client's money in the bank's name—not the client's—to that Swiss bank. The Swiss bank would be instructed to pay that money to the client in Switzerland or wherever the Swiss bank serviced its clients.
28. *Uditore* can be roughly translated as "clerk"; *consigliere* means "counselor."
29. A bishop without a diocese.
30. Egidio Vagnozzi of Rome, Joseph Beran of Prague, Cesare Zerba of Italy.

31. For some sparse details about this mysterious personage, see Luigi DiFonzo's *St. Peter's Banker*, published by Franklin Watts, New York, 1983.

#### PARTNERSHIPS AND DISASTERS

1. The best account to date in book form of Sindona's rise and fall is Luigi DiFonzo's *St. Peter's Banker*, published by Franklin Watts, New York, 1983.
2. The only published account of this event is *The Vatican Connection* by Richard Hammer (Holt Rinehart & Winston, New York, 1982). But the proof for the main event—the request by some employees of the Vatican financial agency—is guaranteed by the testimony of court-ordered wire-taps carried out, in the main, by Joseph J. Coffey, Jr., now Detective Sergeant and Commanding Officer of the Organized Crime Homicide Task Force, New York City. According to the book, the two Vatican people involved were Eugène Cardinal Tisserant and Archbishop Paul Marčinkus. There is no doubt in Sergeant Coffey's mind that both clerics were involved.
3. On August 2, 1979, while out on bail in New York, he disappeared, supposedly kidnaped, reappearing again on October 16. DiFonzo's reconstruction of what happened in those 74 days appears accurate.
4. Giuseppe di Cristina, officer of Ente Minerario Siciliano; Boris Giuliano, police superintendent of Palermo; Giorgio Ambrosoli, liquidator of Sindona's empire; Palermo judge Terranova, chief of the State Anti-Mafia Commission.
5. Graziano Verzotto, president of Ente Minerario Siciliano.
6. The commission consisted of Joseph Brennan, former chairman of New York Emigrant Savings; Carlo Cerutti, vice-chairman of Società Finanziaria Telefonica per Azioni; and Philippe de Wech, former chairman of Union Bank, Switzerland.
7. Terence Cooke of New York, and John Krol of Philadelphia.
8. Emmett Carter of Toronto.
9. Rosone narrowly escaped assassination earlier that year.
10. Abs had a phenomenal banking career in the Hitler era, being chairman of the executive board of Deutsche Bank, the largest bank in Hitler's Germany. His family expropriated part of the briquette works of the Petscheks, a Jewish family.

## Part Two: THE FRAMEWORK OF POWER

### CATHOLIC IDENTITY

1. The point is of capital importance today when clearly among certain groups of bishops—notably in France, Holland, and the U.S.—there are obvious attempts to establish “the French Catholic Church,” “the Dutch Catholic Church,” “the American Catholic Church.” Several Communist countries—Poland, Czechoslovakia, China—have attempted to establish national Catholic Churches and break the connection between Catholic bishops in their home territories and the Roman Bishop.
2. As of 1981, there were 2,375 dioceses with a corresponding number of residential bishops, besides 1,980 other bishops employed at other jobs. There are other minor administrative categories: prelatures (80), apostolic administrations (8), apostolic prefectures (59), mission stations (3), and miscellaneous (47). The bishops of various regions are grouped into episcopal conferences (100). There are 10 international congresses of such episcopal conferences. The eastern section of the Catholic Church has 13 synods and episcopal conferences.
3. Some “Ordinaries” are archbishops, some patriarchs, some metropolitans. These are inner-clergy rankings.
4. The Vatican was originally a low hill on the right side of the Tiber, swampy around its base, solid land toward its flattish top. It is not one of the fabled Seven Hills of Rome, all of which are on the left side of the Tiber. In ancient times, priest-prophets functioned there (hence its name, from the Latin *vaticinare*, to prophesy). Later, emperors drained the lower section, and created terraced gardens and a stadium. The upper part was used as a cemetery. St. Peter was killed in the gardens below, and buried up on top. Christians built a chapel and then a basilica around his gravesite. Later still, St. Peter’s Basilica, the Apostolic Palace (where the popes live today), and the other main buildings of the Vatican were located around that gravesite.
5. Originally the word Curia referred to the government bureaucracy of the Roman emperors. When that government was transferred to Constantinople, and the popes became the temporal as well as spiritual rulers of Rome, the papal bureaucracy inherited the name.



6. There are 11 congregations, 3 tribunals, 3 secretariats, and 19 commissions. See Figure 1 on page 84.

#### THE SHIFT IN HUMAN AFFAIRS

1. *New York Times*, July 15, 1983, editorial page.
2. In his *Unfinished Business*. Nash Publishing, Los Angeles, 1973, page 154.

#### THE PATHOS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1. *The Power of Silence*, 1895.

### Part Three: THE GREAT EXPERIMENT

#### THE PROTO-PERIOD

1. A *soldus*, abbreviated from *solidus*, was reckoned as one seventy-second part of a solid (no other metallic compound mixed in it) pound of gold. In modern Italian, *soldi* is a current expression for the English "money." A florin was a ninety-sixth part of a pound of gold. A scudo was the equivalent of one U.S. dollar of the time. A ducat had the same value as a florin.

Throughout this book, when sums of money are quoted in ancient coin values, no attempt is made to translate them into modern equivalents. This is the wise practice of historians who point out that factors of value in money have undergone such fluctuations that any attempt to translate ancient sums into, say, U.S. dollars of 1983 would be meaningless. The most that can be said is that a large sum of *soldi* was a very large sum by the standards of the time. This remark applies also wherever mention is made of scudi, florins, or ducats.

2. In its earliest form, this was called the *Camera Thesauraria Apostolica*.
3. Charlemagne bestowed on the papacy the cities of Capua, Aquino, Teano, Sora, and the towns of the Beneventan territory. Nicholas I (858–867) tried to make Bulgaria over into a province of the papal State, but this attempt failed. A successor, Sylvester II (999–1003), actually received Hungary as a province of the Roman Church in 1002; but this did not last beyond the end of the century.
4. Each ship was 170 feet long, had forecastle and castle on poop and stern, was propelled by 100 galley slaves manning 100 oars, and carried a complement of 50 marines.

## THE FORMULA APPLIED

1. In 1882, the Vatican bought the company that supplied water to Rome, La Società dell'Acqua Pia Antica Marcia, which it sold only in 1962.
  2. Literally "room" or "chamber."
  3. One of the lowest denomination of coins.
  4. The florin, so called because it carried the Florentine lily, was first issued in Florence in 1252. It weighed about 54 grains and was of pure gold. The Camera minted its own Cameral florins.
  5. Tuscany: 10,000. Perugia: 40–50,000. The March of Ancona: 40,000. The Romagna: 50,000. Bologna varied between 90–180,000 florins.
  6. Strong cotton fabrics with a pile face and twill weave.
  7. *Vacancy Fruits*: When the holder of a benefice died and before his successor took office, the revenues were claimed by the Camera.  
*Procurations*: Travel expenses were paid to high-ranking Curial members by the nobles and churchmen in whose territory they traveled. One-half went to the Camera.  
*Spoils*: The personal property of deceased ecclesiastics went to the Camera.  
*Quindennia*: Sums equal to the benefice taxes the Camera would have received from benefices.  
*Bad Fruits*: Taxes levied on a benefice holder whose claim was exercised without canonical approval.
- There were several other minor levies for other papal services, and "compositions" (an indeterminate gratuity to be fixed when the Camera performed a service which carried its own price tag). St. Peter's Pence, once collected all over Europe, never brought in enormous sums, in spite of one pope's desire to have one penny "from each house out of which comes smoke." Even a penny from every party or 50 million houses would be a tidy sum, the pontiff realized.
8. *Armario XXXVI*, Vol. XXVII, fol. 793 verso.
  9. Rarely has any body of men in the Catholic Church been liquidated with such wholesale cruelty and mercilessness. To be burned at the stake was the least painful alternative offered them.
  10. Its disappearance as a social modality was slow. Germany was fundamentally a feudal state until 1806, Spain until the nineteenth century, the Low Countries until 1795. In the mean-

while, capitalism was governing the external trade and international relations of the political powers.

### Part Four: CAPITALISM AND CATHOLICISM

#### CAPITALISM AND DEMOCRACY

1. *Octo Quaestiones*, ii, 7 (Goldast, *Monarchia*, ii, 341).
2. *De Concordantia Catholica*, ii, 14 (*Opera*, Basel, 1505), p. 730.
3. *Dialogus* (Goldast, ii, 603).
4. Reliable records would indicate a minimum of five simoniacal papal elections and a possible maximum of twelve.
5. All the italicized words are terms for specific papal taxes and fees in vogue at the time.
6. He paid Fra Angelico a paltry 15 ducats a month.
7. *The Idea of Nature*, Oxford University Press, 1945.
8. *Werke*, 15 (2), 276.
9. In his May 1525 pamphlet: *Against the Thieving Bands of Peasants*. In *Werke* (18), 357.
10. *Institutiones*, IV, 20, 31.
11. Alison Philips, *Nineteenth Century*, December 1946, p. 908.
12. D. Wallace, *George Buchanan*, p. 11.
13. Literally, "Mountain of Mercy."

#### THE SLOW DECLINE

1. Innocent XIII (1721–24), Benedict XIII (1724–30), Clement XII (1730–40), Benedict XIV (1740–58), Clement XIII (1758–69), Clement XIV (1769–74), Pius VI (1775–99).
2. This appellation for the Catholic Church seems to have made its first appearance in the middle of the 16th century.
3. The Jesuit missionaries in China were persuaded that Christians could participate in ceremonies honoring Confucius and one's forefathers, without any taint of superstition. The Jesuits' enemies thought this was heresy and corruption of the Christian faith. Rome ruled against the Jesuits. Fierce persecution broke out in China against missionaries and converts. For the best modern account of this lamentable chapter of Roman Catholic history, see *Generation of Giants* by George H. Dunne, S.J. (University of Notre Dame Press, 1962).
4. Sicily and Naples at this time were rich and warlike kingdoms.

5. It included farms, buildings, forests, and estates.
6. In 1789, the bishops supported 562 grammar schools at which some 72,000 pupils were educated—over half free of charge. The school system cost a minimum of 30 million livres annually. They also supported 165 seminaries. With few exceptions, the bishops maintained charitable organizations in each parish—food kitchens, shelters, orphanages, old people's homes, and the like. There was no other charity-giving body in France at the time.
7. Duphot died apparently of a heart attack brought on by excessive drinking, eating, and carousing in Roman brothels.
8. The treasures lost to the French included the *Belvedere Apollo*, the *Laocoön Group*, the *Medici Venus*, the *Dying Gaul*, Raphael's *Transfiguration*, and Titian's *Sacra Conversazione*.
9. They included 333 emeralds, 692 rubies, 208 sapphires, and 386 diamonds; most were cut out of the papal tiaras.

#### THE GREAT INJUSTICE

1. A scudo is reckoned as one dollar; a baiocco (or bajocco) as one quarter of a U.S. penny.
2. A Roman lira of the time was equal in buying power to 50 U.S. cents.
3. See the text of this law in the Appendix, pages 248–49.
4. About \$1.5 million in Italian lire at the time.
5. He was an executive of the Banco Ambrosiano of Milan, which almost a hundred years later attained international fame through the quite infamous "Calvi affair."
6. It was sold by the Vatican in 1962.
7. The Vatican still retains major equity in the Banco di Roma.
8. Some would see in this intermediate and quite secretive organization the forerunner of the P-2 organization that surfaced in the late seventies of this century in connection with the "Calvi affair." But this is incorrect.
9. Amministrazione delle Opere di Religione. Commonly (and literally) translated as "works," the word *opus* in this Vatican usage refers to any working unit, any ecclesiastical or lay agency, commercial or religious, which produces revenue for the disposal of the Holy See.
10. Literally, "the See being vacant."
11. 1963–78.

### THE DECENT COMPROMISE

1. Individual rights.
2. Britain was the first nation to adopt the monometallism of gold. By the 1870s, France, Germany, and the U.S. had followed suit.

## Part Five: RESTRUCTURING

### CONCLUSIONS AS GUIDELINES

1. From the beginning, his death has been the subject of much rumor, the KGB being one of the prime suspects. After the attempted assassination of John Paul II in 1981, and a widespread theory that the assassin, Mehmet Ali Agça, was trained and employed by the KGB, attention was once more focused on the KGB as guilty of John Paul I's intended assassination.

### HIGHEST IDEAL

1. The current proposal to establish a "People's Bank" or an "Agricultural Fund" in Communist Poland (largely with a Vatican participation topping at least \$1 billion) does not fit into this category. Such a fund or bank may be precisely what will *not* help the situation in Poland, where the root-problem is not economic but political and ideological.

### THE FIRST CONFIGURATION

1. Throughout this section, reference should be made to Figure 2 on page 216.

### THE TOWER OF THE WINDS

1. These consist of the Gallery of Geographical Charts, the Hall of Parchments, the Secret Archives, the Room of Inventories and Indexes, Records of the Consistory, Picture Galleries, etc.
2. Finally put in disuse in 1906.

## **APPENDIX: GUARANTEE LAWS OF MAY 13, 1871**

The principal stipulations were:

1. The Pope's person is sacred and inviolable, and crimes against him will be punished in the same way as crimes against the Majesty of the King of Italy. The Italian Government will show to the Pope the same tokens of honor as to other sovereigns.
2. The Pope shall have the right to retain the usual number of Papal guards for the defense of his person and palaces. He shall have full liberty to exercise all the functions of his office, and to post notices concerning that office on all the church doors of Rome.
3. The Pope will be paid by the State the annual sum of 3,225,000 lire, free from communal or provincial taxes.
4. The Vatican, the Lateran, certain basilicas in Rome, and the Papal palace at Castel Gandolfo are to be at the Pope's disposal; these properties can be neither taxed nor alienated.
5. When the Papal See is vacant, the Cardinals may freely assemble; the Government will ensure that Conclaves and Councils are not in any way disturbed.
6. No Italian officials may enter the Papal palaces, unless the Pope has given permission; it shall be forbidden to make domiciliary visits, or to confiscate papers, books or registers in the Papal offices and congregations engaged in spiritual work.
7. The Church's officials shall be protected by the civil authorities.
8. The Ambassadors of foreign powers to the Pope shall possess the rights and immunities due in international law to diplomatic agents; the same for Papal envoys to foreign governments. The

Pope can without hindrance enter into communication with his episcopate abroad, and with the entire Catholic world.

9. The Pope may have his own post-office and telegraph facilities.
10. In Rome all seminaries, academies and colleges for the education of the clergy shall be subject solely to the Holy See.
11. The Government disclaims the right to appoint, or make suggestions as to the appointment to high ecclesiastical offices in Italy; and the Italian bishops shall not be required to take the oath of loyalty to the King of Italy.
12. *Exequatur*, *Placet regium*, and all other forms of governmental permission for the publication and execution of the decisions of the ecclesiastical authority shall be abolished.